

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219

1 4 MAY 2015

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Article Number: 7014 1200 0000 6123 9484

Ms. Anita Smith
Safety Coordinator
Alegent Health Bergan Mercy Health System
d/b/a Alegent Creighton Health Laboratory Service
4955 F Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68117

RE: Alegent Creighton Health Laboratory Service

Omaha, Nebraska

RCRA ID No.: NED078033131

Dear Ms. Smith:

### Request for Information

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking additional information about the management of hazardous waste at your facility. Section 3007 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) gives the EPA the authority to obtain this information in order to determine your facility's compliance with the hazardous waste regulations.

The enclosure contains instructions, followed by the requested information. Please carefully read and follow these instructions. Your response to this request in accordance with the instructions is required, and substantial penalties may result from not complying. Please note that the EPA retains its authority to pursue appropriate enforcement actions, including penalties, for violations discovered as a result of review of your response to this letter, regardless of whether the violations were subsequently corrected.

Within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving this letter, please mail your response to: Stacie Tucker, AWMD/WEMM, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, 11201 Renner Boulevard, Lenexa, Kansas 66219. To request an extension of the time limit, follow the instructions in the enclosure. Please direct all questions to Stacie Tucker at (913) 551-7715.

Sincerely,

Donald Toensing,

Chief

Waste Enforcement and Materials Management

Branch

Air and Waste Management Division

#### **Enclosures**

cc: Mr. Jeff Edwards, Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality

## List of Violations Documented on July 31, 2014 Alegent Health Bergan Mercy Health System d/b/a Alegent Creighton Health Laboratory System Omaha, Nebraska

RCRA ID No.: NED078033131

- 1. Title 128, Ch. 4, 002 referenced by 007.01 Failure to make a HW determination on
  - a. Chemical waste disposed down city sewer drain, according to pages 5-6 of the inspection report
  - b. Chemical waste disposed in red bag biohazwaste, according to page 7 of the inspection report
  - c. Aerosol cans, according to page 8 of the inspection report
  - d. Chemical waste disposed in general trash, according to pages 7-8 of the inspection report
- 2. Title 128, Ch. 4, 003 referenced by 007.02 Failure to re-notify of information changes, according to page 3 of the inspection report
- 3. Title 128, Ch. 10, 004.01F referenced by 007.03D Failure to date a storage drum of xylene, according to page 4 of the inspection report
- 4. Title 128, Ch. 17, 005.01 referenced by 007.03F Failure to have immediate access to an internal alarm or emergency communication device, according to page 10 of the inspection report
- 5. Title 128, Ch. 9, 007.09A Failure to post by the phone the Emergency Coordinators name and phone number, and spill control equipment, according to page 10 of the inspection report
- 6. Title 128, Ch. 25, 013.05 and 014.03 Failure to label and date UW mercury lamps, according to page 9 of the inspection report

## List of Requested Information Alegent Health Bergan Mercy Health System d/b/a Alegent Creighton Health Laboratory System Omaha, Nebraska

RCRA ID No.: NED078033131

- 1. Has ACHL determined that it qualifies to use an exemption for pouring, flushing, discharging, and/or disposing of chemical wastes down the sewer drain to the City of Omaha? Provide supporting documentation.
- 2. Has ACHL notified NDEQ, that it qualifies to use an exemption for pouring, flushing, discharging, and/or disposing of chemical wastes down the sewer drain to the City of Omaha? Provide supporting documentation.
- 3. Has ACHL notified the City of Omaha that it qualifies to use an exemption for pouring, flushing, discharging, and/or disposing of chemical wastes down the sewer drain to the City of Omaha? Provide supporting documentation.
- 4. Has the City of Omaha approved of the chemical wastes that ACHL pours, flushes, discharges, and/or disposes down the sewer drain to the City of Omaha? Provide supporting documentation.
- 5. If the City of Omaha has approved the disposal of chemical wastes down the drain into the city sewer, then provide the following information:
  - a. The approved amount and list of approved chemical wastes discharged, including supporting documentation.
  - b. The estimated amount discharged (indicate whether this is a measured volume or an estimated volume if irregular discharge), including supporting documentation.
  - c. Identify the chemical wastes discharged by volume (indicate whether this is a measured volume or an estimated volume if irregular discharge), including supporting documentation.
- 6. Complete the following table with the following information:
  - a. Lab(s) location of chemical waste used and discharged to the city sewer.
    - i. Please provide a footprint of the lab processes' location within the laboratory, if all of the lab benchwork is completed in close proximity (ex: Attachment 8B of the inspection report).
  - b. Location (i.e. which lab process) generates the chemical waste for disposal or discharge to the city sewer.
  - c. For the lab processes that discharge chemical waste to the city sewer, is this due to the lab machinery physically connected into the city sewer pipes?
  - d. Waste code / hazardous waste code for each waste chemical used in the lab(s).
    - i. Provide supporting documentation (MSDS, manifests, bills of lading, manufacturer's information).
  - e. Amount of chemical waste generated for disposal by any means (disposal via HW disposal, red bag disposal, or discharge down the city sewer).
    - i. Provide supporting documentation (manifests, lab bench sheets, QA/QC reports for machines' reagent use, etc.).